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## KAY IVEY GOVERNOR

## STATE OF ALABAMA

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TO: Chairman Toby Seay, Geneva County Commission

FROM: Governor Kay Ivey

DATE: Monday, January 25, 2021

RE: Flags Lowered Honoring Heroic Retired State Trooper Michael L. Gillis

I hereby authorize you to order flags be flown at half-staff in Geneva County to honor retired State Trooper Michael L. Gillis, who passed away on Saturday, January 23, 2021, for his heroism and dedicated service to the citizens of Alabama.

Throughout his 30-year-career with the Alabama Bureau of Investigation, Gillis served in a variety of roles ranging from state trooper to investigator. In 2009, Gillis put himself directly in the line of fire between a gunman on the loose and the public, while in pursuit to apprehend the shooter. His heroic actions prevented further loss of life in the Wiregrass region, following one of the deadliest shootings in our state. Gillis also faithfully served 33 years in the Alabama Army National Guard and 38 years with the Samson Volunteer Fire Department.

Alabama is indebted to this true American hero's service to our state and country. I offer my heartfelt condolences and prayers to Gillis' family, colleagues and his beloved Wiregrass community.

The flags in Geneva County may be flown at half-staff on the day of his interment on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 until sunset.

KI/li